



02-05-04 Image RCE/1700

PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/335,363
Filing Date	June 17, 1999
First Named Inventor	George SHIBATA, et al.
Art Unit	1743
Examiner Name	Patricia K. Bex
Attorney Docket Number	39D-1884 (81841.0019)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114**

☒ Previously submitted

i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on November 16, 2003.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☐ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print Type)	Wei-Ning Yang, Esq.	Registration No. (Attorney Agent)	38,690
Signature		Date	February 3, 2004

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SENT FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

02/06/2004 SSITHIB1 00000046 501314 09335363

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PATENT
Attorney Docket No: 39D-1884 (81841.0019)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

George SHIBATA, et al.

Serial No: 09/335,363

Filed: June 17, 1999

For: SAMPLE LOADING AND HANDLING INTERFACE TO
MULTIPLE CHEMISTRY ANALYZERS

Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Patricia K. Bex

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING VIA U.S. EXPRESS MAIL

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Date of Deposit: February 3, 2004

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Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that

- ☒ Two copies of Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal
☒ Return postcard

are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service with sufficient postage under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and are addressed to:

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P.O. Box 1450
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Date: February 3, 2004

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Shene Carbonilla

Name of person mailing papers

Signature